CLAIM AMENDMENTS

<u>IN THE CLAIMS</u>

This listing of the claims will replace all prior versions, and listing, of claims in the application or previous response to office action:

1. **(Currently Amended)** A method for communicating the consequences of a user preference setting on **<u>one or more</u>** related components, comprising:

displaying a **<u>first</u>** component control for a ~~selected~~ **<u>first</u>** component, the **<u>first</u>** component control operable to effect a user preference setting concerning the **<u>first</u>** selected component; ~~and~~

displaying an operating status for a **<u>second</u>** component related to the ~~selected~~ **<u>first</u>** component, the operating status of the ~~related~~ **<u>second</u>** component resulting from effecting the user preference setting on the ~~selected~~ **<u>first</u>** component**<u>;</u>**

<u>displaying a user interface for locking the user preference setting for the first component; and</u>

<u>displaying a second component control for the second component, the second component control allowing the user to:</u>

<u>change the operation of the second component within a first range of settings if the user preference setting for the first component is not locked by the user; and</u>

<u>change the operation of the second component within a second range of settings smaller than the first range of settings if the user preference setting for the first component is locked by the user</u>.

2. **(Currently Amended)** The method of Claim 1, further comprising displaying an operating status for the ~~selected~~ **<u>first</u>** component and each related component, the operating status of each **<u>related</u>** component reflecting the consequences of effecting the user preference setting on the ~~selected~~ **<u>first</u>** component.

3. **(Currently Amended)** The method of Claim 1, further comprising determining the operating status of ~~a related~~ **the second** component resulting from effecting the user preference setting on the ~~selected~~ **first** component based on user defined component relationships.

4. **(Currently Amended)** The method of Claim 1, further comprising determining the operating status of ~~a related~~ **the second** component resulting from effecting the user preference setting on the ~~selected~~ **first** component based on component behavior observed during operation of ~~the~~ **an** information handling system.

5. (Original) The method of Claim 1, further comprising displaying a plurality of component controls, each of the plurality of component controls corresponding to a respective component and operable to effect a user preference setting on its respective component.

6. **(Currently Amended)** The method of Claim 1, further comprising:

~~displaying an operating status for a plurality of related components;~~

~~displaying a component control for at least one of the related components; and~~

adjusting the ~~operating status of the plurality of related components~~ **component control for the second component** substantially simultaneously with an adjustment of the **first** component control **for the first component**.

7. **(Currently Amended)** The method of Claim 1, further comprising communicating the user preference setting to a device manager, the device manager operable to adjust operation of the ~~selected~~ **first** component in accordance with the user preference setting.

8.   **(Currently Amended)** An information handling system, comprising:

a memory;

a processor operably coupled to the memory;

a plurality of components operably coupled to the memory and the processor, each component having an operating status;

a display device operably coupled to the memory and the processor; and

a program of instructions storable in the memory and executable by the processor, the program of instructions operable to:

display the operating status for a first component; [[,]]

receive **user input for** a desired modification in operation for the first component; [[,]]

determine the operating status for each operationally linked component resulting from the modification in operation for the first component; [[, and]]

display on the display device the ~~operational~~ **operating** status for the first component and at least one operationally linked component;

receive user input for locking the operating status of the first component;

allow user input for a desired modification in operation for a second component within a first range of settings if the operating status of the first component is not locked by the user; and

allow user input for a desired modification in operation for a second component within a second range of settings smaller than the first range of settings if the operating status of the first component is locked by the user.

9.   (Original) The information handling system of Claim 8, further comprising the program of instructions operable to define the operational links between components.

10.   (Original) The information handling system of Claim 9, further comprising the program of instructions operable to ascertain configuration of the information handling system to define the operational links between components.

11.　(Original) The information handling system of Claim 9, further comprising the program of instructions operable to define the operational links between components in accordance with user supplied parameters.

12.　(Original) The information handling system of Claim 9, further comprising the program of instructions operable to calculate the effects resulting from the modification in operation according to the defined operational links.

13.　**Cancelled.**

14.　(Original) The information handling system of Claim 8, further comprising the program of instructions operable to display a plurality of performance controls, the performance controls operable to effect a modification in operation of an associated component and display the operating status for one or more components related to each performance controls.

15.　(Original) The information handling system of Claim 8, further comprising the program of instructions operable to implement the modification in operation.

16.　(Original) The information handling system of Claim 8, further comprising the program of instruction operable to substantially simultaneously display the operating status for the first component, receive the desired modification in operation for the first component, and display on the display device the operational status for the first component and at least one operationally linked component.

17.　**(Currently Amended)** The information handling system of ~~Claim 8~~ **Claim 14**, further comprising the performance control representing a component control for a software module, the software module responsible for controlling a plurality of operationally linked component parameters.

18. **(Currently Amended)** A computer program, stored on a tangible storage medium, for use in communicating the effects of user preference settings in an information handling system, the program including executable instructions that cause a computer to:

define relationships between a plurality of information handling system components;

display at least one performance control, the performance control operable to effect at least one desired change in operation of a **first** configurable information handling system component;

receive, through the at least one performance control, a desired change in operation of the **first** configurable information handling system component;

calculate, based on the defined relationships, effects on one or more related information handling system components resulting from the desired change in operation of the **first** configurable information handling system component; ~~and~~

display an operating status for the related information handling system components resulting from effecting the desired change**;**

display a user interface for locking the operation of the first configurable information handling system component;

allow the user to change the operation of a second configurable information handling system component within a first range of settings if the operation of the first configurable information handling system component is not locked by the user; and

allow the user to change the operation a second configurable information handling system component within a second range of settings smaller than the first range of settings if the operation of the first configurable information handling system component is locked by the user.

19. (Original) The computer program of Claim 18, further operable to display a performance control for each configurable information handling system component.

20. (Original) The computer program of Claim 19, further operable to simultaneously display the operating status of each information handling system component related to the configurable information handling system components.

21.   (Original) The computer program of Claim 18, further operable to define the relationships between the plurality of information handling system components based on performance data for the current information handling system configuration.

22.   **Cancelled.**